

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A finished wood slat product comprising:
multiple first, manufactured wood slats, each first manufactured slat having a first length and being initially separate from each other, and
the multiple first manufactured wood slats being laminated together to form lines between adjacent laminated slats that extend through the first lengths of the first manufactured slats and sliced along a direction perpendicular to a face plane of the first manufactured wood slats to form a second length and to expose the lines such that the lines appear side-by-side and extend throughout the second length.

2. (Currently Amended) A finished wood slat comprising:
a first end;
an opposite second end; and
a long thin rectangular shape defining a final face of the finished wood slat, said face having a wood grain that extends between the first end and the second end, the wood grain resulting from periphery edges of a plurality of first, manufactured separate slats, said first, manufactured separate slats being combined together.

3. (Original) The wood slat of claim 2, wherein the plurality of first, manufactured wood slats have joining marks that result from processing, and wherein the joining marks in the finished wood slat are hidden.

4. (Original) The wood slat of claim 2, wherein said plurality of first, manufactured slats are laminated.

5. (Original) The wood slat of claim 2, wherein said plurality of first, manufactured slats are bonded using an adhesive.

6. (Original) The wood slat of claim 2, wherein said plurality of first, manufactured slats are selectively cut to preferred dimensions, and wherein the finished wood slat is selectively cut to preferred dimensions.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for making a wood slat, the method comprising:

providing a bulk section of wood;

cutting successive separate sections, the sections defining first parallel planes and forming a plurality of separate wood pieces in a desired shape;

rejoining each of said plurality of separate wood pieces in a different order to form a new bulk section with lines disposed between each adjacent pair of wood pieces; and

cutting a second set of successive sections defining second parallel planes, the second planes perpendicular to said first parallel planes, the second set of successive sections forming a plurality of wood slats with each wood slat defining a length and exposing a plurality of the lines disposed side-by-side and extending throughout the length.

8. (Original) The method of making a wood slat of claim 7, wherein the bulk section of wood has joining marks, and wherein the method effectively hides the joining marks.

9. (Original) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, further comprising marking said bulk section with successive lengthwise markings, the markings used for said cutting successive sections.

10. (Original) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, wherein said bulk section is in the form of a rectangular block.

11. (Original) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, wherein each of said plurality of wood pieces are first, manufactured slats that have a thin rectangular shape.

12. (Original) The method of making a wood slat having hidden joining marks of claim 8, wherein each of said plurality of wood slats have a thin rectangular shape.

13. (Currently Amended) A wood slat prepared by a process comprising:
providing a bulk section of wood;
cutting successive sections of the bulk section of wood, the sections defining first parallel planes and forming a plurality of separate wood pieces in the desired shape;
rejoining each of said plurality of separate wood pieces in a different order to form a new bulk section with lines disposed between the rejoined wood pieces; and
cutting a second set of successive sections defining second parallel planes, the second parallel planes perpendicular to said first parallel planes, the second set of successive sections forming a plurality of wood slats having the desired veneer look.

14. (Original) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, further comprising marking said bulk section with successive lengthwise markings, the markings used for said cutting successive sections.

15. (Original) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein said bulk section is in the form of a rectangular block.

16. (Original) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of wood pieces are first, manufactured slats that have a thin rectangular shape.

17. (Original) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of wood slats have a thin rectangular shape.

18. (New) The wood slat of claim 2, wherein the wood grain comprises a plurality of substantially parallel lines extending between the first end and the second end.

19. (New) The wood slat prepared by the process of claim 13, wherein the desired veneer look comprises the lines being exposed in a side by side manner and extending throughout a length of each wood slat.